



Welcome
to
PRESCHOOL



A PRAYER ON THE NIGHT BEFORE THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

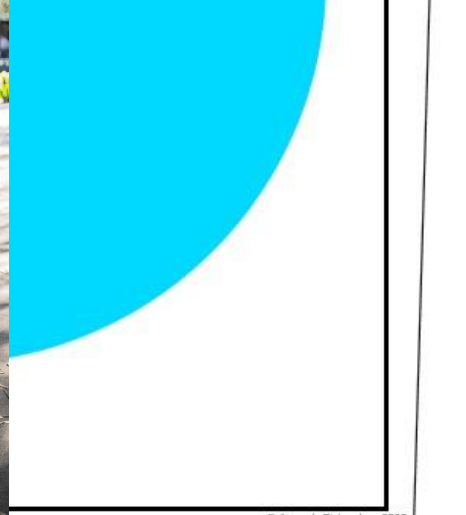
Dear Lord,
Our children are filled with emotions
about their first day of school!
Fill them with peace instead of worry.
Give them courage instead of fear.
Strengthen them with your presence as
they start the new year.
Amen.

@JAREDEES

Mater Dei Ora Pro Nobis

about me

My name is Miss Emily Benincasa . This will be my fourth official year at Mater Dei and my first year teaching Pre-K 4. I graduated with a degree in Elementary Education from West Chester University. I grew up in Oreland PA and now live in the Phoenixville area! As a product of Catholic education, I am thrilled to be teaching in a school that reminds me of the places where I first fell in love with learning. I am excited to replicate the amazing experiences I had in Catholic school for my students here at Mater Dei! I love spending time with my family and fiance, relaxing on the beach, and trying new restaurants!



ABOUT THE TEACHER ASSISTANT



The students and I are so lucky to call Mrs. Bridwell (Mrs. B) part of our classroom family! Mrs. B will be with us Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. She is an amazing mom to her three children Jack, Sam, and Ava. Mrs. B loves to travel and spend time in the outdoors!



ABOUT THE TEACHER ASSISTANT



We are also very lucky to have Mrs. Mary O'Sullivan (Miss Mary) as part of our Pre-K 4A team this year. Miss Mary will be with us on Tuesday and Thursday. We are so excited to have Miss Mary joining us after her years of service at our Hatfield campus.



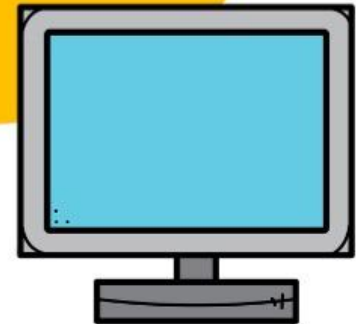
CONTACT INFO



Mater Dei Phone
Number
215-368-0995

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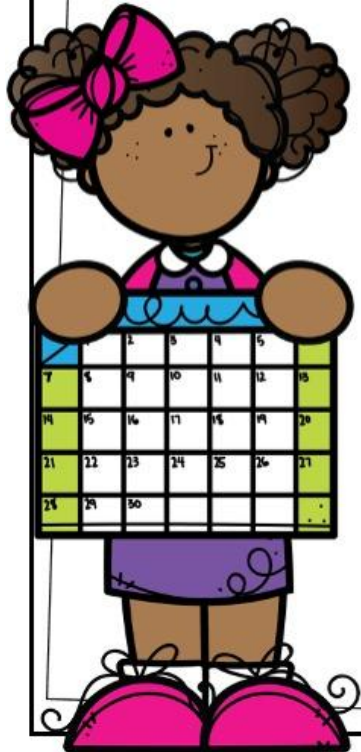
[Teacher Website](#)



CLASSROOM
PROCEDURES
and
expectations



attendance



- If your child is going to be absent, please email the office at officenotes@materdeicatholic.com by 9 am and myself
- If your child is attending CARES, please provide me with the monthly calendar via email or paper copy



arrival

- AM CARES begins at 7:00 AM, if needed
- Arrival time: 8:00-8:45 am
- Students will be directed by staff to their classroom door



arrival



Backpacks

- All children are required to have a full-size backpack
- Backpacks needs to fit
 - Folder
 - Lunchbox
 - Artwork
 - Napper
 - etc.



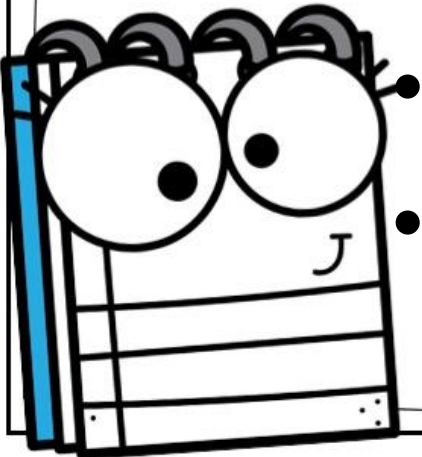
BIRTHDAYS

- On your child's birthday, you may send in treats or goodie bags for them to enjoy with their friends! I will reach out when their special day is approaching.
- This is optional, we will do plenty of other fun activities to make sure your child feels special on their big day!
- Summer birthdays can be celebrated throughout the year as well!



BEHAVIOR

- Incentive Jar
 - When students show positive behaviors, kind deeds, or use respectful words they will get to add a star to our “star jar.” When the jar is full, all students will pick from our prize box and get to choose a way to celebrate as a group.
- In case a behavioral issue arises, parents will be contacted.
- Glow and Grow slips





GLOW SLIP

Student's Name _____

Date _____

Teacher's Name _____

My teacher is proud because I showed B.E.A.R.S behavior!



- Be A Leader**
 - Generosity and Service
 - Makes good choices
- Effort Matters**
 - Puts forth best effort in class
 - Completes all assignments
- Act with Love**
 - Everyone is included
 - Works cooperatively with others
- Respect Yourself, Adults and Peers**
 - Listens and follows directions
 - Respectful of others opinions and ideas
- Shows Self Control**
 - Accepts consequences for actions
 - Demonstrates self-discipline
 - Uses technology appropriately
 - Speaks at appropriate times

Teacher
Comments _____

Parent
Signature _____

Date _____



GROW SLIP

Student's Name _____

Date _____

Teacher's Name _____

Today I prevented myself and/or others from learning by NOT demonstrating the expected B.E.A.R.S. behavior...



- Be A Leader**
 - Generosity and Service
 - Makes good choices
- Effort Matters**
 - Puts forth best effort in class
 - Completes all assignments
- Act with Love**
 - Everyone is included
 - Works cooperatively with others
- Respect Yourself, Adults and Peers**
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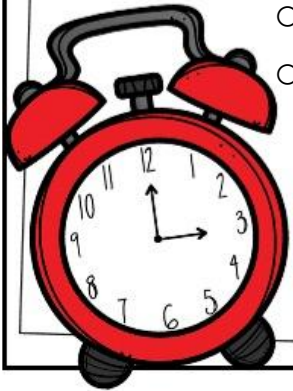
DRESS CODE

- Please dress your child in sneakers everyday! To keep all the children safe, they are unable to use the playground equipment if not in appropriate footwear.
- ALL clothes must be labeled.
- In case of accidents, school has provided us with extra uniforms. Please wash and return these to school the following day.
- Please store extra socks and underwear in your child's backpack.



Dismissal

- Half Day Dismissal
 - 12:00 PM -front entrance
- Dismissal Time
 - 3:00 PM- back entrance
- All older siblings will be dismissed via the Pre-K car line.
- Please display laminated car signs clearly in the front passenger side window
- Please email me if there is a change to typical pickup person
- If there is a change before dismissal,
 - [Change of Transportation Form](#)
 - Link above can also be found on MD website



LUNCH

- We will be peanut-free and tree-nut free until I receive notification from all families regarding student allergies and sensitivities
- Remember to pack a drink for both snack and lunch for full day students
- Half day students should bring one snack to school
- We are unable to heat up lunches, but thermoses are welcome and a great substitution
- Lunch begins at 12:00. Quiet time is from 12:30-1:30. If picking your child up early from school try to avoid doing so during nap time if possible.



PARENT CONFERENCES

- Everyone will be scheduled a parent conference in the late Fall
- I will contact parents in the Spring if a conference is needed
- If you have a question or concern about your child's development, a conference can be scheduled at any time of year



SUPPLIES

SUPPLY LIST

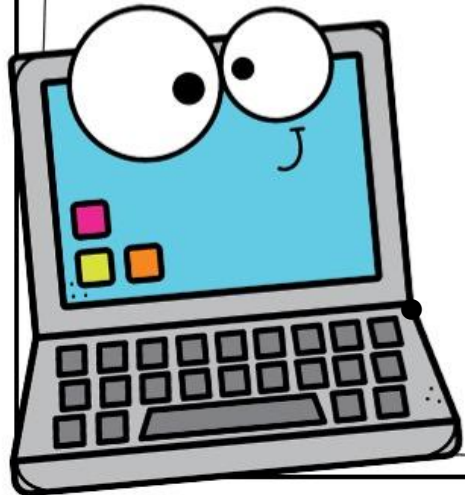
- One roll of paper towels
- One container of Clorox wipes or another type of sanitizing
- One container of Wet Ones wipes or baby wipes
- One box of tissues



TECHNOLOGY

- Our classroom will have a group of iPad's for the students to use. Children will get number/letter recognition practice via multiple apps we have downloaded for them on their devices.
- In addition to emails, I will use the app/website Seesaw as a form of communication with parents- sign up links will be sent via email . My teacher website will have a weekly news segment as well as a monthly newsletter to update families on what is going on in the classroom!

SmartBoard



Water Bottles

- Students should be sent to school with a reusable water bottle each day.
- We are able to refill these throughout the day at the water stations around the school.



WHAT WE

will

LEARN THIS YEAR



Frog Street Curriculum:

- Provides intentional instruction in key areas of development for children ages 4 and 5 to effectively continue on the path to kindergarten readiness.
- Children will participate in hands on activities that will help them explore various content areas, such as science, math, literacy, STREAM, and problem solving.
- Children will continue developing early literacy skills such as oral language skills, print knowledge, letter recognition, and phonemic awareness.



God Made Me Curriculum:

- *God Made Me* helps instill in four-year-olds a love of Catholic faith, Tradition, culture, and a sense of their own Catholic identity while incorporating age-appropriate academic content.
- *God Made Me* uses an active learning approach that meets the developmental needs of four-year-olds using a Centering, Sharing, Acting instructional model to involve the whole child: heart and mind, body and soul.



Social & Emotional Learning:

- Frog Street also provides conscious discipline strategies to build a strong social and emotional foundation from which children will be able to
 1. Engage in appropriate play with one another
 2. Solve conflicts independently
 3. Regulate their emotions



Typical Day in PreK 4A

Arrival Time

- Morning Work & Small Group Play

Circle Time

- Morning Meeting
- Calendar & Weather
- Question of the Day
- Lucky Duck of the Day

Literacy

- Letter of the Week
- Read Alouds
- Weekly Themes

Religion

Snack

Outdoor Play Time

Center Time

- Group Play, Art, Small Group Work, Journal Writing, Sensory Play

Mathematics

Half Day Dismissal

Lunch

Nap

Outdoor Play

Center Time

End of Day Routine

Dismissal



THANK YOU!

If you would like to ask any questions please feel free to email me and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to a year that is not only fun, but filled with growth and learning!